

Homeland Security Update

"Ensure a safe and secure Washington for the 21st Century"

OCTOBER 2005

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HOMELAND SECURITY HIGHLIGHTS

The October edition of the Homeland Security Newsletter focuses on technology supporting our Homeland Security efforts.

Our lead article, written by [Gary Robinson](#), Director of the Washington State Department of Information Services (DIS), summarizes DIS efforts to improve Washington's technology infrastructure. Our second article, written by John Fortugno, Director of the Washington State [Homeland Security Institute](#), illustrates how the institute is prepared to implement a Washington State first responder training system which is

sustainable, achievable, scalable, and cost effective.

Technology is also being employed to track and certify our [National Incident Management System Implementation](#) as well as supporting our [Washington Joint Analytical Center](#) and [NorthWest Warn](#) critical information gathering and sharing networks.

The Homeland Security Newsletter is produced bi-monthly (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec) through the combined efforts of Team Washington Partners. Please send articles, announcements, helpful links and events for the next issue by December 15, 2005 to Amy Cook, Homeland Security Strategic Planner at Amy.Cook@mil.wa.gov.

IMPROVING THE SECURITY AND FUNCTIONALITY OF WASHINGTON'S TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

By Gary Robinson, Director, Department of Information Services

Introduction

When she appointed me director of the Department of Information Services (DIS), Governor Gregoire asked me to ensure efficient, effective and reliable services, provide leadership to move us to the next level in information technology, and ensure major agency computer projects are implemented on time and within budget. The Governor also made clear that security is one of her highest priorities, and for DIS this means improving the security and functionality of the state's technology infrastructure. We are focusing particular attention on a couple of areas: enhancing first responders' ability to communicate in a crisis, and improving the security of our state's computer and telecommunications networks.



ENHANCING FIRST RESPONDER COMMUNICATIONS

State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)

The importance of technology infrastructure was sharply highlighted by the attacks of September 11, 2001. First responders, emergency managers, business and government leaders must be able to communicate with the public and each other during emergencies. First responders must be able to coordinate efforts to ensure public health and safety. Business and government leaders must be able to keep mission-critical systems operating and keep the public informed. Incompatible communications systems make it impossible for first responders to communicate effectively during disasters, fires and medical emergencies.

Along with Chief Jim Broman of the Washington State Fire Chiefs Association, I co-chair the SIEC. The SIEC is a subcommittee of the Information Services Board and is charged with making sure the state's radio communications facilities and spectrum are managed effectively so that critical personnel can talk to each other during emergencies. SIEC membership includes a broad representation of emergency responders, ensuring their diverse perspectives are considered when making policy decisions that have a direct impact on first responders' ability to communicate and coordinate during an emergency.

Recently, the SIEC granted authority to the Emergency Management Division and Washington State Department of Transportation to sign memorandums of understanding with all branches of government, permitting the use of the On Scene Command and Control frequency. This will allow participating jurisdictions to access a frequency designated exclusively for communications at the scene of an emergency. This protocol will improve the ability for emergency responders from different jurisdictions to work together.

The SIEC is currently engaged in long-range planning, design, and implementation of a statewide interoperability plan. The plan will allow the state to leverage existing radio systems in the VHF and 800 MHz bands and provide a phased migration to standard common radio protocols over the next five to ten years.

Planning began by identifying the requirements and needs of state agencies for improving interoperable public safety communications. Federal, local, and tribal agencies also provided input. The project created a snapshot of the public safety communication assets already in place across the state and determined the technology and operational requirements for a sustainable system. When finalized, the plan will enable agencies and jurisdictions to make better and more informed investments in their communications infrastructure. By coordinating investment

strategies, we fulfill our mission for fostering cooperation among public safety organizations and promoting interoperable communications.

IMPROVING THE SECURITY OF OUR NETWORKS

Washington Computer Incident Response Center (WACIRC)

Throughout the past 10 years, we have witnessed an increase in electronic traffic between the Internet and state and local government networks; traffic that must be protected to maintain citizens' trust in government. In 2001, the Information Services Board was charged with ensuring that state computer and telecommunications systems are secure. In response, DIS created the Washington Computer Incident Response Center (WACIRC), a partnership of state agency computer security representatives.

WACIRC communicates information about computer-related security threats to state agencies and local governments, and coordinates the response when cyber worms, viruses, denial-of-service attacks and other cyber incidents threaten the state's networks. WACIRC has mobilized government organizations across the state to join forces and changed Washington's incident response framework from *response only* to a dynamic model of collaboration – from the moment a computer incident is identified, to the final phases of containment and recovery. This rapid response mechanism functions within a formalized framework of communication and interaction and has proven its worth through scheduled cyber exercises and during real incidents such as Slammer, Blaster and Sasser.

Recognizing the value of WACIRC, Washington counties and cities are now participating via the Regional Incident Information Gathering (RIIG) mechanism. WACIRC is also participating at a national level, with the Multi-State Information Sharing organization (MS-ISAC).

WACIRC generates the following results at the state and local government levels:

- timely response to repair and recover from virus and other security exploits
- minimal loss of revenue due to cyber outages
- fewer hours of down-time for critical government services
- better, faster communications and response due to strong, collaborative working relationships across agencies and regional partners
- continuous improvement to incident response policies, processes and the professional development of security professionals

WACIRC positively impacts citizens by creating the following:

- continuous delivery of government services and resources
- increased confidence in the integrity of government information
- increased trust in government's ability to protect the data and assets of its citizens

WACIRC is enabling Washington to meet its cyber security objectives through effective prevention, detection, containment, eradication, and recovery. We also leverage the lessons learned process – using the knowledge and expertise generated by collaborative responses to computer-related security incidents to generate recommendations for effective improvement.

For more information on the SIEC, visit <http://isb.wa.gov/siec/index.htm>

For more information on WACIRC, visit <http://wacirc.wa.gov/default.asp>

Washington's Homeland Security Institute

By John Fortugno, Director, HSI



In the first nine months of our existence, things have been moving ahead quickly at the Homeland Security Institute. With a staff of two (growing to three this month) we have:

- ◆ Developed the first statewide Certified Trainer Data Base.
- ◆ Built a Capabilities-Based Planning Instrument (the first in the nation, and the subject of an article in last month's Homeland Security Newsletter).
- ◆ Constructed our website – hsi.wa.gov (which hosts our data base, planning instruments, courses, and other products).

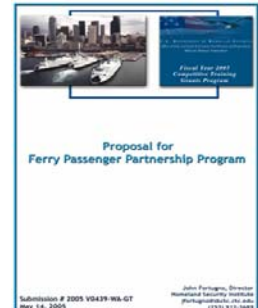


- ◆ Assembled an online hosting, registration, tracking, and reporting system for our online awareness-level courses (Operational Safety/Security, NIMS/ICS, Mass Decontamination, WMD Awareness, and Personal Protective Equipment) – all of which have now achieved ODP approval.



- ◆ Pursued an aggressive and complex timeline for completing the First Responder Training Plan, which will be delivered to the Committee for Homeland Security at the end of the year.
- ◆ Worked with partners at the local, state, and federal level to advance standards, certification, and credentialing processes.

On October 3rd, HSI received notification from the Department of Homeland Security that we were one of fifteen organizations nationally (from nearly 300 applicants) awarded Competitive Training Grants for this year. The \$1 million award will support the Ferry Passenger Partnership Program (FPPP). The program will train first responders, passengers, and crews about maritime-related security issues. FPPP is intended to be a pilot that can be replicated and applied to all domestic ferry operations (which serve more than 134 million American passengers each year). The FPPP will display many of the cross-discipline and blended learning approaches championed by HSI. Our partners include the Department of Transportation, Washington State Ferries, Washington State Patrol (VATS), Pierce College (COE for HS), Citizen Corps, Emergency Management Division, Rainier Media, and the Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction.



The Homeland Security Institute's goal is to continue to build Washington State first responder training which is systematic, sustainable, achievable, scalable, and cost effective.

Please visit www.hsi.wa.gov to have a look at our products. Let us know what you need and how we can move training forward together.

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Events and Meetings

November - December 2005

November 2, 2005 - Regional Pandemic Flu Planning Session, King County Regional Communications and Emergency Coordination Center (RCECC) in Renton, contact Eric Holdeman at eric.holdeman@metrokc.gov.

November 3, 2005 - Emergency Management Council, Camp Murray, Washington, Building 104, for details contact Walt Swenson at w.swenson@emd.wa.gov or 253-512-7462.

November 5 - 10, 2005 - IAEM Annual Conference & Exposition, Adams Mark Hotel, Dallas Texas. Conference Theme - "Collaboration: The Key to Success in Emergency Management." For details and registration, visit <http://www.iaem.com>.

November 17, 2005 - Regional Pandemic Flu Planning Session, King County Regional Communications and Emergency Coordination Center (RCECC) in Renton, contact Eric Holdeman at eric.holdeman@metrokc.gov.

December 7, 2005 - Committee on Homeland Security, Camp Murray, Washington, Building 104, for details, contact the Emergency Management Division at 253-512-7468.

December 15, 2005 - Regional Pandemic Flu Planning Session, King County Regional Communications and Emergency Coordination Center (RCECC) in Renton, contact Eric Holdeman at eric.holdeman@metrokc.gov.

Announcements

GRANT FUNDING UPDATE

CEDAP AWARDS TO STATE OF WASHINGTON

The Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) was created by Department of Homeland Security, Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness, to assist smaller communities in acquiring and using commercially available equipment to prevent, deter, and respond to terrorist attacks, as identified in state homeland security strategies. This competitive program is a direct assistance program, not a grant program, and equipment and technical assistance is provided directly to the selected jurisdictions. The program includes, but is not limited to, interoperable communications equipment, defensive protective equipment for first responders, and vulnerability assessment equipment appropriate to rural jurisdictions.

Phase I of this program was completed and nearly 40 jurisdictions within the state of Washington received equipment awards. Washington was third in the nation in CEDAP equipment awards.

Phase II is expected to begin in November – information and applications will be available on the Responder Knowledge Base website, www.rkb.mipt.org.

If you have any questions about the CEDAP program, you may contact your preparedness officer or the SLGCP CSID Helpline at 1-800-368-6498.

HOMELAND SECURITY INSTITUTE RECEIVES \$1M TRAINING GRANT

Washington's Homeland Security Institute was recently awarded \$1 million as part of the DHS Competitive Training Grants Program, designed to strengthen preparedness training for first responders, public officials and citizens within a national scope. Over 267 entities submitted initial applications for a total of \$30 million in available grant funds, and 15 final awards were made nationwide.

PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM AWARDS - \$7,298,258

Washington State will receive \$7,298,258 from the nationally-competitive Port Security Grant Program. This grant program was created to address key national priorities by helping to protect ports against small craft and underwater attacks and vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices. The program also funds measures to enhance explosive detection capabilities aboard passenger vessels and associated facilities.

Entities receiving awards under this grant include:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Bainbridge Island Police Department: | \$ 637,646 |
| SSA Marine, Inc: | \$ 56,562 |
| Washington State Ferries: | \$6,537,800 |
| Washington State Patrol: | \$ 66,250 |

WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES AWARDED COMPETITIVE FERRY GRANT FUNDING

Washington State Ferries, in coordination with Washington State Patrol, applied for and received \$704,213 in Competitive Ferry Grants through the FFY05 Transit Security Grant Program. \$5 million was available nationwide and six ferry systems were eligible to apply. These funds will be used to increase the prevention and response capabilities of WSP Vessel and Terminal Security for the Washington State Ferries system.

NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) UPDATE



Photo courtesy of the Washington State Patrol

A tremendous amount of work has gone into ensuring that our state achieves the first steps in NIMS compliance by September 30, 2005 as directed by the Department of Homeland Security. Despite some of the challenges we were faced with, we all recognized the true benefit that a standardized system would provide and continued to do our best to meet the requirements. Now that we have accomplished the 2005 requirements, we have more critical steps to take in the next year as we look ahead to our next compliance report due on September 30, 2006. John Bruun, NIMS Coordinator, john.bruun@wsp.wa.gov of the Washington State Patrol hosted the first NIMS meeting for state agencies on October 12, 2005. Please go to the EMD NIMS site at

<http://www.emd.wa.gov/6-mrr/resp/nims/nims-idx.htm> for the steps that states, tribal and local entities must take during FY 2006 (Oct 1, 2005 – Sept 30, 2006) to become fully compliant with NIMS. Jurisdictions will be required to meet the FY 2006 NIMS implementation requirements as a condition for receiving federal preparedness funding assistance in FY 2007. Most important of the FY 2006 requirements is that states must establish a planning process that incorporates the appropriate procedures to ensure the effective communication and implementation of NIMS requirements across the state, including tribes and local jurisdictions. This planning process must include a means for measuring progress and facilitate the reporting on NIMS implementation among its tribal and local jurisdictions.

NORTHWEST WARNING, ALERT & RESPONSE NETWORK

The NorthWest Warning, Alert & Response Network (NWWARN) is a pilot project of the Department of Homeland Security's Homeland Security Information Network – Critical Infrastructure (HSIN-CI). NWWARN is a collaborative effort between government and private sector partners within Washington State with a goal to maximize real-time sharing of situational information without delay and provide immediate distribution of intelligence to those in the field who need to act on it. NWWARN uses readily available communication methods to rapidly disseminate actionable information to our members.

NWWARN's objective is to provide timely warnings and alerts on significant risks, events, threats and issues to government entities and both public and private critical infrastructures.

NWWARN capabilities include:

- Dissemination of Information
- Collection of Information
- Website with Public and Members Only Access Levels

Find out more about NWWARN at www.nwwarn.gov.



THE READY CAMPAIGN

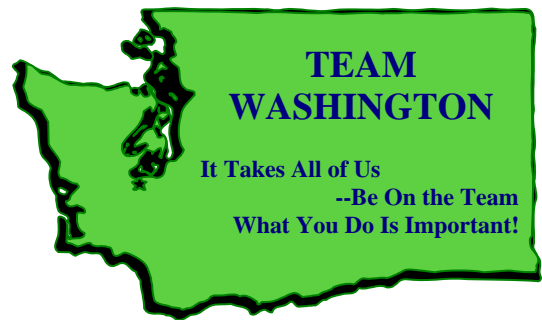
The Ready campaign is a national public service advertising campaign produced by the Advertising Council in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security designed to educate and empower English- and Spanish-speaking Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies.



Call 1-800-BE-READY or visit www.Ready.gov for a "Get Ready Now" brochure and other information.

To learn more and to get involved, contact your nearest Citizen Corps Council by visiting www.CitizenCorps.gov.

Around the State Around the State



STATEWIDE INTEGRATED INTELLIGENCE PLAN

On February 3, 2005, the Washington Joint Analytical Center (WAJAC) Advisory Board approved the plan to use Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Plan (LETPP) grant funding to support the WAJAC and existing Regional Intelligence Groups (RIG's) and to develop RIG's in geographic areas where no formal RIG exists. The vision of this plan is:

"Employing an all-crimes approach to combat terrorism, the regional intelligence plan will provide a systematic and coordinated exchange of criminal intelligence between all law enforcement agencies in Washington State."

Contracted Analytical Support

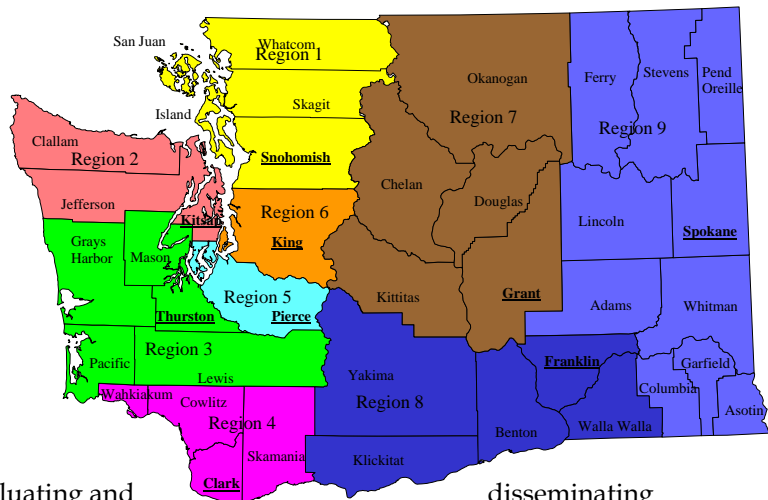
Over the last few months, 13 contracted analysts have been put in place throughout the state. LETPP grant funding has allowed the state to pay for these services as well as provide other support in an "all crimes" approach to combat terrorism.

Analysts have been contracted in the following regions:

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Region 1 (3) | Region 5 (1) |
| Region 2 (1) | Region 6 (1) |
| Region 3 (2) | Region 8 (2) |
| Region 4 (1) | WAJAC (2) |

Over the next few weeks additional analysts will be placed in the following RIG's:

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Region 6 (2) | Region 7 (1) |
| Region 9 (2) | WAJAC (2) |



Contracted analysts assist investigators in evaluating and disseminating intelligence gathered from terrorist groups and organized criminal gangs. They are trained to recognize trends in criminal activity in an effort to prevent, disrupt or deter terrorist acts.

Washington Joint Analytical Center

WAJAC, co-located with the FBI's Field Intelligence Group serves as a central fusion center for all terrorism related information collected at the local level. Four analysts and eight investigators collect, evaluate and disseminate critical intelligence. Specific threats are forwarded to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force or to local agencies for investigation. WAJAC must rely on information from multiple sources to "connect the dots" in a terrorism investigation. The primary method of disseminating critical information is through the Department of Homeland Security, *Northwest Warning, Alert and Response Network* at www.nwwarn.gov. All law enforcement officers are encouraged to sign up on this site to receive timely homeland security information.

Anyone desiring additional information regarding the implementation of the Statewide Integrated Intelligence Plan may contact Lieutenant Keith Huntley at keith.huntley@wsp.wa.gov.

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WSDA INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM TEAMWORK ESSENTIAL IN PLANT DISEASE DRILL

More employees are learning about "Incident Command System," or ICS, operations, as real emergencies are requiring joint agency responses. The ICS environment is definitely an example of breaking down silos, minimizing or overcoming turf battles, going outside your normal work activities, and working together on a common mission.

In the three-day USDA-WSDA exercise conducted in Moses Lake in August, WSDA staff worked with federal officials and the local community in a drill that simulated the discovery of a pathogen known as brown rot. It's a strain of *Ralstonia solanacearum*. If real, it would pose a risk to the state's large potato and food processing industry.



*WSDA and U.S. Department of Agriculture staff were pleased with the emergency exercise that tested their ability to detect and contain an outbreak of a plant disease known as *Ralstonia solanacearum*, or brown rot. The disease would pose a serious threat to the state's multimillion dollar potato and food processing industry. The drill was conducted over three days in Moses Lake at the end of August. The group worked under the Incident Command System used in emergency responses nationwide.*

Among lessons learned:

- ☐ Appreciate professionals with diverse backgrounds working to accomplish a mission. There are no small jobs.
- ☐ Field staff must follow biosecurity procedures to protect farmers' properties from disease. Also, be aware that farmers carefully watch WSDA activities.
- ☐ Realize the importance of communication systems, whether it involves telephones, cell phone operability, laptop security, copy machines, or a good contact list.
- ☐ Briefings are needed to keep internal staff involved in collecting information to tell the big picture to external audiences such as the Governor's Office, the news media and affected stakeholders in the community.
- ☐ The key to effective communications with the media is anticipating controversial questions that could be asked, then drafting and getting answers approved in advance.
- ☐ The public information officer position checklist was a bit overwhelming. The drill definitely was a challenge.

You never know when you'll be asked to respond to an agricultural or natural disaster emergency. When you do, you can bet the response will be carried out in the ICS environment.

The full article appeared in the September 30, 2005 edition of WSDA's employee newsletter, Ag Briefs. Send comments to author Mike Louisell, WSDA Public Information Officer, mlouisell@agr.wa.gov.

WA STATE FERRIES CENTRAL PARTICIPANT IN MAJOR MARINE TERRORISM RESPONSE EXERCISE



On Sunday and Monday, September 25 and 26, WSF culminated a nearly year long exercise cycle by participating in a full scale Puget Sound-wide field response exercise. The Port of Seattle was awarded a grant from the federal Office of Domestic Preparedness to develop a port-wide marine terrorism response plan. Part of the plan development process was to conduct a series of validating exercises.

One of the major goals of the exercise was to exercise the command and control of the massive response by multiple agencies. Using the Incident Command Structure a Unified Command was established with WSF, US Coast Guard, WSP, Seattle Fire Department and Seattle Police representatives coordinating the action in conjunction with their own EOCs and all reporting back to the Washington State EOC.

For more information about the exercise, see the next article in this newsletter, go to www.marineresponse.org or read the Port of Seattle article at <http://www.portseattle.org/about/security/mtr.shtml>.

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INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS HIGHLIGHT HOMELAND SECURITY EXERCISE

Story by MSG Jeff Clayton, Photos by SGT Dan Purcell

Over the 25th and 26th of September, the Washington Military Department participated in an exercise intended to facilitate planning for Military Support to Civil Authorities for response to any national security emergency. Dubbed Maritime Terrorism Response (or MTR), key participants included the Seattle Fire Department, Tacoma Fire Department, Seattle Police Department, Washington State Patrol, Washington State Ferry System, the Harbor Patrol, the Washington Emergency Management and the Washington National Guard, and took place at several locations in King and Pierce Counties.

The scenario included simulations of an improvised explosive device (IED) attack on a ferry at Coleman Dock, hijacking of a cruise ship at the NOAA facility on Lake Union, a HAZMAT fire on a cargo ship in the Port of Tacoma, and the discovery of a suspicious container on the dock in the Port of Everett.

The MTR exercise developed and validated a multi-agency response system and plan to aid the safe and effective mobilization of local, state, and federal resources in the event of marine terrorism incidents.

In addition to other significant support, the Washington National Guard committed two cutting-edge units to the exercise; the 10th Civil Support Team (CST/WMD), and the newly formed CBRNE (pronounced "C-Burn-E") or Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear, and Explosive Team. Both units are rather unique in that they are comprised of Guardsmen from both the Washington Air and Army National Guard, working side-by-side.



Members of the 10th Civil Support Team (CST), Washington National Guard prepare an equipment static display for a delegation of observers from Thailand.

New equipment had been scheduled to be used during MTR as well, but was sent instead to assist the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. The Washington Air National Guard's new ISISCS (pronounced "Isis") or Interim Satellite Incident Site Communications Set, operated by the 252nd Combat Communications Group, is ideal for this sort of exercise. The ISISCS is a highly specialized communications suite which can provide internet, video telecommunications, networking, and cross band fusion to link up to a dozen radio networks.

Major General Timothy J. Lowenberg, the Adjutant General of the Washington Military Department, took this opportunity to invite a delegation of first responder experts from the Kingdom of Thailand - a nation with which Washington enjoys an especially close relationship through its State Partnership Program - to attend the exercise. The Thai Delegation spent several days working closely with the 10th CST, and other local first responders, in order to further enhance our mutual Homeland Security posture.

Exercise participants were able to demonstrate command, control, coordination and communications (C4) between private and public response agencies and assets, exercise horizontal and vertical coordination between local, regional, State and Federal agencies, and validate plans, organization, equipment, technology and training. First responders were also able to take advantage of various military "best practices" developed in support of the Global War on Terror.

The MTR and the State Partnership program represent continued efforts by the State of Washington, the Washington Military Department and its Homeland Security stakeholder partners to improve readiness, mitigation, and recovery to both natural and man-made hazards response.



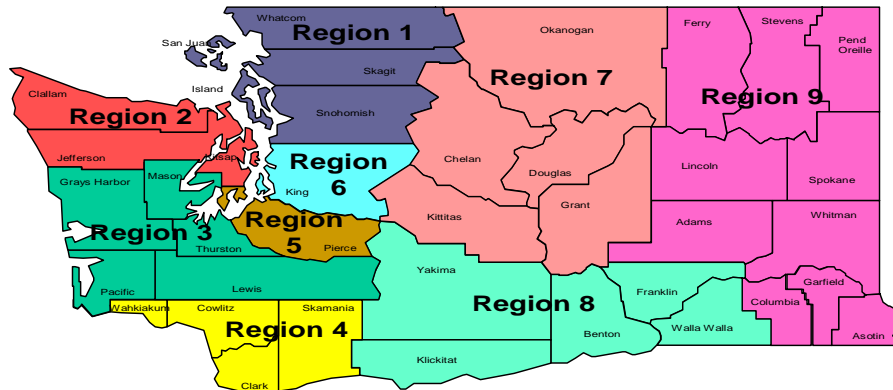
A 10th CST member briefs members of the Thai delegation on equipment used in detecting nuclear, biological and chemical agents. The equipment display provided the observers with an opportunity to ask questions.

During the recent Marine Terrorism Response (MTR) Exercise, a delegation of port security officials from Thailand visited Camp Murray for a briefing and tour conducted by the 10th Civil Support Team. The visit by the Thai observers gave the 10th CST an opportunity to show what was being done here to combat the threat of a potential terrorist attack.



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Building Capabilities Around the Regions



Personnel, Planning, Organization & Leadership, Equipment & Systems, and Training and Exercises, Evaluations, and Corrective Actions are the Elements of Capability identified in the Interim National Preparedness Goal, page 8, published March 31, 2005 - our regions work diligently to build these capabilities!

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| Personnel | Paid and volunteer staff who meet relevant qualification and certification standards necessary to perform assigned missions and tasks. |
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- ❖ Spokane (Region 9) has a new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Coordinator, John Baldwin. John started as a CERT volunteer and attended the EMI CERT Train-the-Trainer course to become a CERT Coordinator.

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| Planning | Collection and analysis of intelligence and information, and development of policies, plans, procedures, mutual aid agreements, strategies, and other publications that comply with relevant laws, regulations, and guidance necessary to perform assigned missions and tasks. |
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- ❖ In Region 6, the recent Gulf Coast hurricane disasters made King County's emergency preparedness seminar, hosted by King County Executive Ron Sims and King County Sheriff Sue Rahr, all the more timely and useful for mayors, hospital administrators, tribal leaders and other elected leaders who gathered in Seattle on October 5. Policy and decision makers from the county and city governments, local hospitals and tribes discussed funding challenges for emergency preparedness as well as sustaining the economy in the aftermath of a disaster. For the full article, visit the King County Executive's Web site at <http://www.metrokc.gov/exec>.
- ❖ Region 9 continues to hold planning meetings to discuss issues and develop strategies that will benefit the entire region. The region is working closely with community partners to use video-conferencing in many of the planning efforts. The video-teleconference system allows rural counties to come to the table while remaining in their communities. The region continues to use improvement plans from previous exercises to update and improve their plans.



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Organization and Leadership

Individual teams, an overall organizational structure, and leadership at each level in the structure that comply with relevant laws, regulations, and guidance necessary to perform assigned missions and tasks.

- ❖ In Region 8, Franklin County is close to finishing the remodel of a 2200 square foot portion of their current office building. The completion is scheduled for the week of October 21, 2005. Klickitat County is organizing a board of directors to oversee Emergency Management as it is being formalized.

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Equipment and Systems

Major items of equipment, supplies, facilities, and systems that comply with relevant standards necessary to perform assigned missions and tasks.

- ❖ In Region 8, the ARES Coordinator is working on Team Building throughout the region. Yakima County is working towards a tactical communications plan for the county. Walla Walla County has been working on interoperability between counties.



Benton County received their Mobile Command Unit this month. The unit was purchased with funding from Homeland Security. It will meet Benton County's need to have a mobile command post for any major incident within the county. It will serve law enforcement, fire services and Benton County Emergency Services. Additional communications equipment has been purchased for the unit and will be installed as it arrives from the vendor.

- ❖ Region 9 is working closely Hospitals and Public Health on there equipment purchases. All of the counties are receiving communications equipment on a regular basis. Spokane just received four Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) trailers, a backup generator for their EOC and will receive their 45' Mobile Command Vehicle.

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Training

Content and methods of delivery that comply with relevant training standards necessary to perform assigned missions and tasks.

- ❖ On September 27-29, 2005, Region 3 hosted Louisiana State University's PER 220, Emergency Response to Domestic Biological Incidents Course. With representation from over 14 agencies from seven different local, state, and federal jurisdictions, including senior elected officials, the class was a tremendous success. The 3-day operations-level course helped command-level first responders and local government officials plan courses of action in preparation for a possible bioterrorism event.
- ❖ Additional training throughout in Region 3 included 3-Line Decontamination Unit training with Aberdeen Fire Department, CERT training with the Quinault Indian Nation, and a tsunami tabletop exercise with Grays Harbor County. The media and members of the public were invited to the 'Decon Drill' in Aberdeen and the tsunami tabletop to demonstrate how homeland security dollars are being spent to better prepare their communities to respond to both natural and manmade disasters.
- ❖ All Region 8 Counties are in the progress of training first responders and top officials for IS-700 and AWR 160. Yakima County is consolidating IS 300/400 into a 6 day class.
- ❖ **Benton-Franklin Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)** – A full session is close to completion for October in Pasco. 17 residents of Benton and Franklin County have participated. The next session will be in Kennewick in January 2006.



- ❖ Walla Walla CERT is holding an American Red Cross sponsored First Aid/CPR Training class. The CERT in schools has been fantastic! More sessions of CERT will be conducted in the future.
- ❖ Yakima County CERT has completed another CERT class and is expecting to conduct more in the future.
- ❖ Region 9 personnel continue to attend WMD training at Anniston, Alabama; Radiological Training in Las Vegas; Bomb training at Socorro, New Mexico; and Terrorism training at Emmitsburg, Md. The region is focusing most of its training efforts on new equipment, NIMS Awareness and CBRNE Awareness.

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| <p>Exercises, Evaluations, and Corrective Actions</p> | <p>Exercises, self-assessments, peer-assessments, outside review, compliance monitoring, and actual major events that provide opportunities to demonstrate, evaluate, and improve the combined capability and interoperability of the other elements to perform assigned missions and tasks to standards necessary to achieve successful outcomes.</p> |
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- ❖ In Region 2, Kitsap County responded to the recent hurricanes in the gulf by developing and implementing a mobilization process to send people to the gulf. Kitsap County officials unanimously supported sending qualified county employees that volunteer to go to the gulf region to support the victims. Working with the Red Cross, over 500 county and community volunteers were interviewed and to date eight county employees have been sent to the region for two week periods.
- ❖ In Region 6, on September 21, 2005 the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Wastewater Treatment Division hosted a workshop on ***Radiological & Toxic Chemical Emergency Response in a Combined Sewer System Plan***. The workshop presented the findings of a radiological risk assessment conducted by Battelle's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory under a Homeland Security UASI grant. There were 45 participants from multiple King County departments, the City of Seattle, the Washington State Department of Health, EPA Region X and the Washington Association of Hospitals. The resulting Plan will be used nationally as a Best Management Practices template for other systems.



- ❖ In Region 8, Walla Walla County held an Immunization Clinic October 18-20, 2005. All organizations activated Incident Command. The county will be conducting an Active Shooter Exercise this fall involving many different agencies and a school.



Franklin County participated in a mock Mass Casualty Incident at Lourdes Medical Center October 19, 2005. The exercise tested the incident command in the hospital as well as plans and procedures. Overall it was a great training experience. Franklin County also participated in the Fiesta de la Independencia Mexicana in Pasco at the Dust Devils Stadium. Volunteers assisted with bilingual translation and give out disaster preparedness information to the Spanish community that attended the event.

- ❖ In Region 9, Washington State University in Pullman, WA held a drill in late August to test some new procedures and equipment at their Nuclear/Radiation research site. The region is planning a full scale communications exercise for late March 2006 along with the National Disaster Medical System exercise. All of its ODP exercise AARs and improvement plans have been imported to the ODP Portal.

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Link Fest

[American Red Cross](#) - providing coordination for relief efforts.

[Automated Exercise & Assessment System](#) - developed by National Guard Bureau, AEAS provides efficient and cost-effective training and readiness assessment for the Emergency Responder Community.

[America's Waterway Watch](#)- a national awareness program that asks those who work, live, or recreate on or near the water to be aware of suspicious activity that might indicate threats to our country's homeland security.

[Citizen Corps](#) - The mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of every individual through *education, training, and volunteer service* to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

[Emergency Preparedness Resource Inventory \(EPRI\)](#) - a tool allowing local or regional planners to assemble an inventory of critical resources that would be useful in responding to a bioterrorist attack.

[Federal Emergency Management Association \(FEMA\)](#) - FEMA Region X administers the federal emergency preparedness, damage prevention, and response and recovery programs to Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. FEMA provides pre-disaster and post-disaster assistance to minimize the loss of life, and reduce damage and economic loss from natural and technological hazards. In both pre-disaster and post-disaster efforts, FEMA works in close partnership with State emergency management agencies.

[Homeland Security Publications](#) - Washington State Publications

[Homeland Security State Strategic Plan](#) - Current revision as of June 9, 2005.

[Lessons Learned Information Sharing](#) - Department of Homeland Security Publications.

[Northwest Warning, Alert and Response Network](#) - Northwest Warning, Alert and Response Network is

[Northwest Watch](#) - Northwest Watch is a program involving Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary members and civilian volunteers that live along these masses of water, including the Puget Sound.

[Washington State Emergency Management Association \(WSEMA\)](#) - The Washington State Emergency Management Association exists to advance the profession of emergency management in both the public and private sectors.

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Acronym Round-Up

ARES - Amateur Radio Emergency Service

CBRNE - Chemical, Biological,
Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive

CERT - Community Emergency Response
Team

CBPI - Capabilities-Based Planning
Instrument

DEM - Director of Emergency Management

DIS - Department of Information Services

DHS -Department of Homeland Security

DOH - Department of Health

EM - Emergency Management

EMD - Emergency Management Division
(Washington Military Department)

EMS - Emergency Medical Services

EOC - Emergency Operations Center

EPRI - Emergency Preparedness Resource
Inventory

ESD - Educational Service District

HAZMAT - Hazardous Materials

HLS - Homeland Security

HSI - Homeland Security Institute

IWN - Integrated Wireless Network

MTR - Marine Terrorism Response (Project)

NaCO - National Association of Counties

NIMCAST - National Incident Management
System Capabilities Assessment Support
Tool

NIMS - National Incident Management
System

NPG - National Preparedness Goal

ODP - Office of Domestic Preparedness

PC-NET - Pierce County Neighborhood
Emergency Teams

RIG - Regional Intelligence Group

RIIG - Regional Incident Information
Gathering

SIEC - State Interoperability Executive
Committee

T-T-T - Train the Trainer Courses

TTX - Table-Top Exercise

USCG - United States Coast Guard

VATS - Vessel and Terminal Security
(Division within WSP)

WACIRC - Washington Computer Incident
Response Center

WAJAC - Washington Joint Analytical
Center

WMD - Weapons of Mass Destruction

WSDOT - Washington State Department of
Transportation

WSEMA - Washington State Emergency
Management Association

WSF - Washington State Ferry

WSP - Washington State Patrol